

Mycoplasma Genitalium

Mycoplasma Genitalium (M. gen) is a sexually transmitted bacteria that can be passed from one person to another during vaginal and anal sex. Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) from M. gen occur primarily in the urethra and the cervix.

How can I get M. gen?

M. gen is spread during vaginal and anal sex.

What should I look for?

Women

Symptoms in women may include:

- Vaginal discharge
- Unusual vaginal bleeding or bleeding after sex
- Burning or pain with urination
- Lower abdominal pain or pain during sex

Men

Symptoms in men may include:

- Burning or pain with urination
- Pain or itching in the head of the penis
- Discharge from the penis
- Pain, tenderness, or swelling of the testicle(s)

Although we know people without symptoms can carry M. gen, unlike gonorrhea or chlamydia, there is no current research to suggest testing people without symptoms is helpful. Given this, City Clinic only tests people with symptoms or partners of people who are diagnosed with M. gen.

Is M. gen serious?

Yes! M. gen in women can lead to a serious infection called pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). PID can damage the fallopian tubes and make a woman more likely to have a “tubal pregnancy” (outside the uterus) which can be fatal. PID can also lead to infertility- the inability to get pregnant. In men, M. gen can cause a serious infection in the testicle.

How is M. gen treated?

- Usually, treatment is with an antibiotic pill taken once a day for 10-14 days. Sometimes, a different antibiotic is used. Finish all of the pills you are given, even if you feel better before taking them all.
- Your sex partners should be tested for M. gen and treated if their test is positive. Otherwise, they can give the infection back to you or infect others.
- Anal sex partners of men with M. gen can consider treatment even if their urine test is negative because, currently, we do not have a test for anal/rectal or pharyngeal (throat) M. gen.
- We do not provide partner packs for M. gen.

- Don't have sex for two weeks after you start treatment. Don't have sex with your partner(s) until two weeks after they start treatment.

How can I avoid getting or spreading M. gen?

- Male and female condoms are effective in reducing the risk of infection.
- Do not have sex if you or a sexual partner has abnormal discharge, burning with urination, or any other symptom that could be due to an STI.

For more information:

Please talk with your City Clinic clinician or your own health care provider. The following websites also offer helpful information:

General STD

www.ashsexualhealth.org (also in Espanol)
www.cdc.gov/std/
www.sfcityclinic.org
www.sfsi.org/

Contraception and STD/sex info

www.bedsider.org

Teens

www.iwannaknow.org
www.amplifyyourvoice.org (also in Espanol)
www.kidshealth.org/teen (also in Espanol)
www.scarleteen.com

For an STI check-up or treatment, see your health care provider, local clinic, or come to:



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